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RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF MALLING



ANNUAL REPORT

On the Health of the Malling District for the year 1961



Ву

The Medical Officer of Health Dr. F. H. M. DUMMER

and

Chief Public Health Inspector
H. C. COLDRICK

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY

Medical Officer of Health:

F. H. M. Dummer, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector:

H. C. Coldrick, M.A.P.H.I.

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector:

E. L. Allsop, M.A.P.H.I., A.R.S.H.

Additional Public Health Inspectors:

R. Marsdin, M.A.P.H.I.

R. M. Cripps, M.A.P.H.I.

Cleansing Officer:

A. J. Weller, M.I.T.A.

Clerks:

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Mrs. F. Wagener

Miss D. Cosstick

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Medical Officer of Health's Office, 13 Tonbridge Road, MAIDSTONE. Kent. (Maidstone 4072). Public Health Department,
Council Offices,
High Street,
WEST MALLING.
Kent.
(West Malling 3334).

28th May 1962.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my fifth Annual Report on the health of the Rural District of Malling.

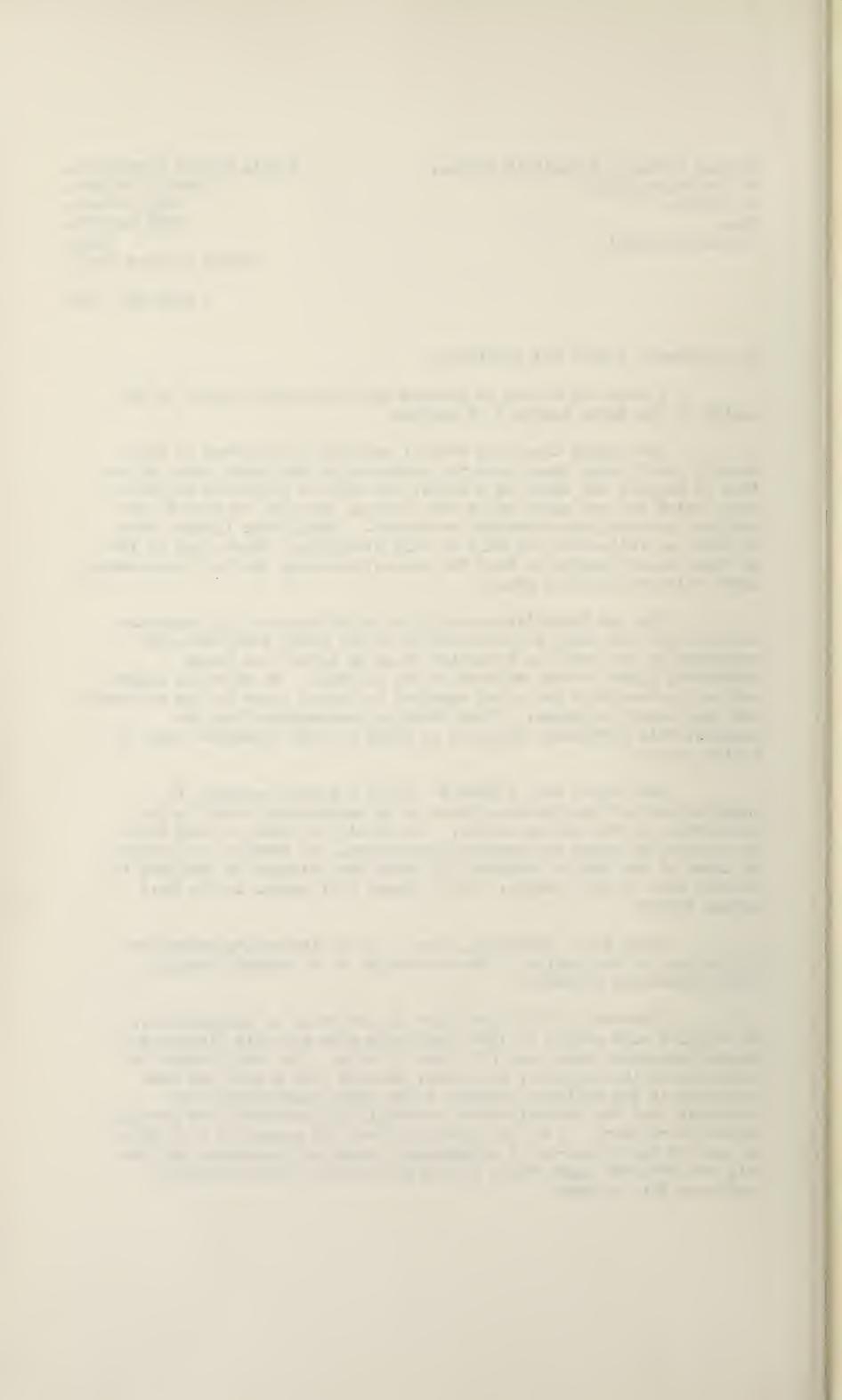
Once again there are several encouraging features in this Report, chief among them being the reduction in the death rate, below that of England and Wales as a whole; and the low infantile mortality rate, which is once again below the national average, in itself, the smallest recorded since records were kept. Both these figures must be taken as indicative not only to bald statistical facts, but of the services which operate to keep the statistics along the very encouraging trend which we see this year.

The low infantile mortality rate indicates a high standard of midwifery and child welfare; and the small death rate indicates something of the care and attention which is being paid in an increasing degree to the welfare of the elderly. We must not forget either, the enormous amount of research in recent years in the synthesis and improvement of drugs, a fact which is inseparable from the comparatively favourable position in which we find ourselves today in health matters.

Once more, too, I have to report a better response to immunisation and vaccination, which is an encouraging trend in the maintenance of the public health. It should be borne in mind that in the figures given for smallpox protection, for example, no account is taken of the public response following the outbreak of smallpox in another part of the country. This figure will appear in the next Annual Report.

There does, therefore, seem to be an increasing awareness in the mind of the public of the advantages to be gained through those protective measures.

Although in 1961 there were 22 new cases of tuberculosis, as compared with only 7 in 1960, the death rate for this disease took another downward trend, and fell from 14 to 9. The real attack on tuberculosis lies in early diagnosis, because once a case has been diagnosed at the earliest possible stage, the opportunities for treatment, and the probability of eventual full recovery, are getting better every year. I would point out, too, the amount of work which is done in the follow-up of tuberculosis cases and contacts, and you will see from the pages which follow that every effort is made to eradicate this disease.



One of the major attacks of recent years has been against poliomyelitis, and the present figures show a reasonable coverage of your population among those who have been offered vaccination. The over all figure, however, is one which should not be viewed with complacency, and it is hoped that now that oral vaccine has been introduced, full advantage will be taken of this fact to protect all persons up to the age of 40. The procedure is now very simple indeed, and as I have recommended to the Council throughout the year, all members of a family should have this protection at the same time.

Again it is my pleasure to commend to you the excellent work of the members of the Public Health staff, and particularly that of Mr. Coldrick, your Chief Public Health Inspector, whose detailed Report can be read in the pages which follow.

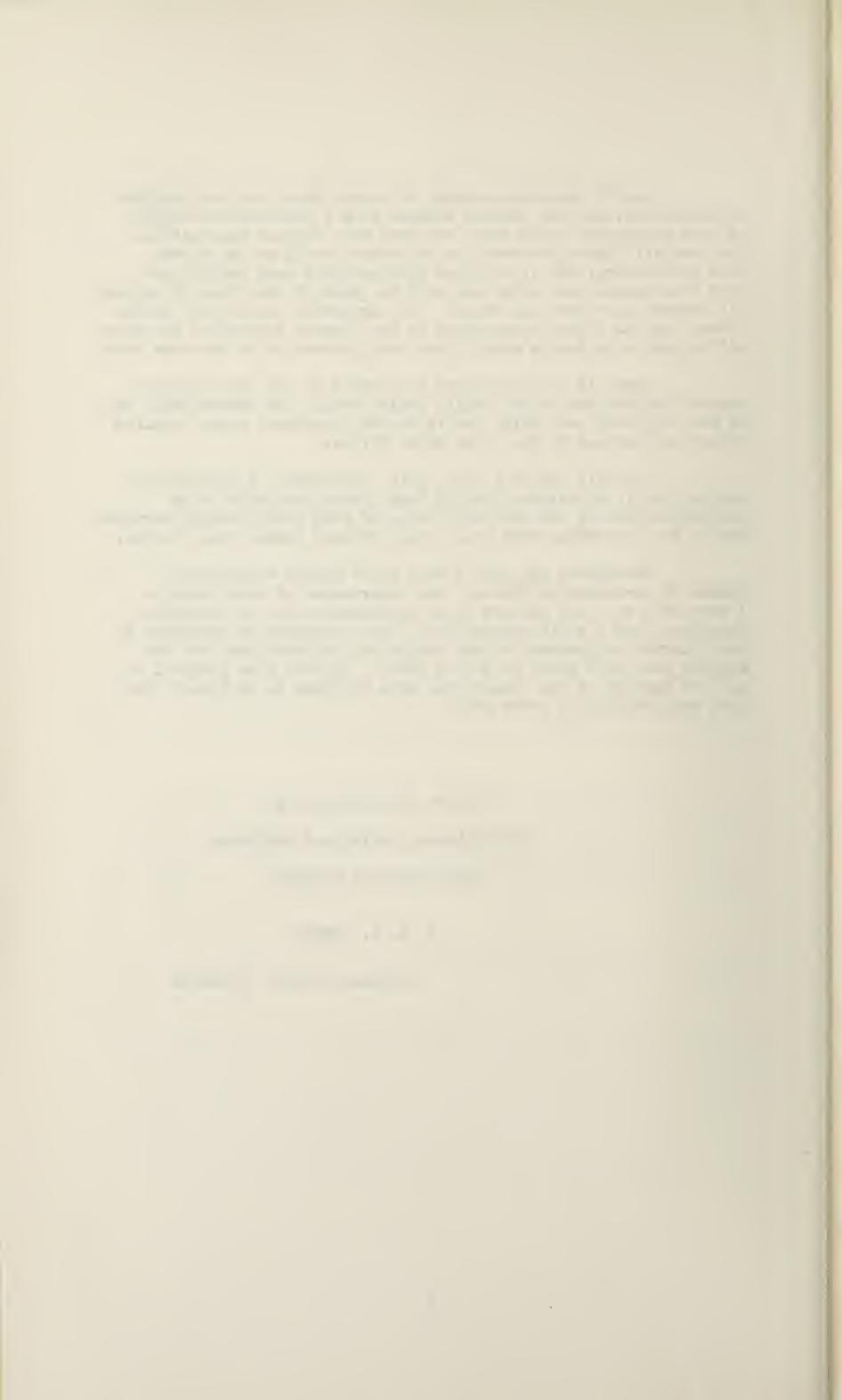
You will see that once again, the number of inspections carried out is an extraordinarily high figure, and this is an indication both of the very wide scope of your public health services, and of the enthusiasm with which your Officers persue their duties.

Throughout the year I have had a highly satisfactory degree of co-operation from all the departments of your Council. I have had, too, the support of an enthusiastic and knowledgeable Committee, and I would particularly like to express my gratitude to the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee, for the support they have given me during 1961. Indeed, I am grateful to all the Members of the Council who have listened to my Reports and have supported me in every way.

I have the honour to be
Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,

F. H. M. DUMMER

Medical Officer of Health



EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births		Male	Female	Total			
Legitimate Illegitimate Total	0 • •	395 16 4 11	21	713 37 750			
Live birth rate per 1,000 population - crude corrected 1							
Still Births	••	6	3	9			
Still birth rate per 1,000 live and stil	l births			11.85			
Total live and still births	• • •	417	342	759			
Infant Deaths	• • •	10	6	16			
Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legit Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 ill Neo-natal mortality rate (deaths under 4 total l Early neo-natal mortality rate (deaths under 1,000 total live Perinatal mortality rate (deaths under 1 stillbirths combined per 1,000 total Maternal mortality (including abortion) Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 total Deaths	cimate live egitimate live birth week and live and	e live er 1,00 ns) eek still	births 00 births)	27.0213.339.33			
Total deaths Death rate per 1,000 population - crud	le rected	229	200	429 10.68 10.89			
Death rate for England Wales				12.0			

Comparative table showing birth rate, death rate, and

infant mortality rate.

	Per	Per 1,000 estimated mid-year Home Population			Per 1,000 total live and still births	Per 1,000 live births
MALLING R. D. C.	Live Birth Rate Crude Adjusted Rate Rate		Death Rate Crude Adjusted Rate Rate		Still Birth Rate	Doath rate of infants under 1 year of age
1957 1958 1959 1960 1961	14.90 15.71 16.79 18.00 18.67	15.65 16.49 17.62 18.92 19.60	10.56 10.50 11.01 10.61 10.68	10.88 10.71 11.23 10.92 10.89	29.31 16.86 15.74 32.30 11.85	17.76 20.58 27.20 23.22 21.33
England & Wales 1961	17	⁷ •4	12.0		18.7	21.4

Once again the live birth rate, which has increased steadily since 1957, is above the England and Wales rate for 1961, at the very high figure of 18.67 (adjusted rate 19.60).

This is a reflection of the "young" character of your District, which, of course, in other ways is also shown in some of your problems - for example, housing.

The death rate too, is an improvement on the national figure, standing at 10.89 as the corrected rate.

This year the Infantile Mortality Rate is almost equivalent to that of England Wales, being just below the national average at 21.33.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The feature of the year's story of infectious diseases has been the large number of cases of measles contributing to the high total of 1,043 notified cases of infectious diseases. This is five times the rate last year, and is almost entirely accounted for by this one disease.

Once again there were no cases of diphtheria or poliomyelitis.

There were 120 cases of Sonne dysentery; all these, with the exception of 3, were within Leybourne Hospital, and there arose no problem of secondary spread outside the Hospital.

There were fewer cases of scarlet fever, being only 8 as compared with 22 last year.

CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

The following table shows the number of cases in which bedding was steam disinfected and one or more rooms fumigated:-

Work carried out	Tuberculosis	Cancer
Fumigation of rooms and disinfection of bedding	_	1
Fumigation of rooms only	<u>-</u>	-
Disinfection of bedding only		-

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

PARISH	Scarlet fever	Whoopin; Cough	Weasles	Paralytic Polio-	Non-paralytic / myelitis	Pneumonia	Fulmonary (Tuber-	Non-pulmonary \ culosis	Dysontery	Paratyphoid fever	Food Poisoning	Erysipelas	Puerperal pyrexia	Ophthalmia neonatorum	TOTALS
Addington Aylesford Birling Borough Green Burham Ditton Ightham Leybourne East Malling West Malling Mereworth Offham East Peckham West Peckham Platt Plaxtol Ryarsh Shipbourne Snodland Stansted Wateringbury Trottiscliffe Wouldham Wrotham	1 1 3	-4151111	19 12 - 72 48 72 14 85 35 22 80 30 2 57 2 7 39 20 177 2 7 39 20			3 - 1 1 2	-5-2311111	1 - 1 - 1 - 2	117 2	2	2		1		19 135 82 51 39 29 137 82 31 25 82 31 25 194 20 40 25 23
TOTALS	8	29 8	348		guig	8	17	5	120	2	4	1	1	-	1 ,0 43



The following table relates to the incidence of Notifiable

Disease according to disease, sex and age groups

						A(Æ	GRO	UPS		IN	Υŀ	ZARS	5						
DISEASE	0 .	- 1	1	- 2	3	- 4	5	- 9	10	-14	15-	-24	25	- 44	45	64	65 ov	& er	TOI	ALS
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F		F	M	F	M	F
Scarlet fever	-	_	1	_	-	1	6	ma	-	-	-	e.a.	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	1
Whooping cough	-	1	2	4	7	1	5	5	1	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	15	14
Poliomyelitis	.	-	_	-	·-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	· -
Measles	10	12	79	60	90	88	248	182	32	23	13	6	2	3	-	-	-	-	474	374
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	egan.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	-	1	-	1	1	8	20	19	29	12	11	5	1	5	1	5	-	1	63	57
Meningococcal infection	-	_	-	_	-	_	-	_ :	_	_	_	_	-	_	_	-	-	_	_	_
Pneumonia	_	1	-	_	-	-	_	-	-	-	1	_	_	_	1	2	2	1	4	4
Smallpox	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	_	-	_	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Encephalitis	enca	-	-	_	-	-	-	-	-	-	_		_	***	_	_	-	-	-	
Enteric or typhoid fever	-	_	-	_	-	_	_	-	_	_	-	_	-	-	_	_	_	_	-	~~)
Paratyphoid																				
fevers	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	2
Erysipelas	_	-	-	-	-	-	-	979	-	-	~	-	91.10	-	-	,48.9	-	1	-	1
Food poisoning	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	1	1	_	-	-	-	-	1	3
Puerperal pyrexia	-	_	-	-	-	-	-	_	-	-	-	1	-	_	-	-	-	-	-	1
Ophthalmia neonatorum	-	-	-	639	-	98 07		-		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	_	-
TOTALS	10 25		82 1	65 47		99 97	279 48		62 9	37 9	25	13 38	4	10 14	2	1 C	2	3 5	564 1, 0	1



TUBERCULOSIS

The table set out below records in age groups the new cases recorded in the register during the year, together with the number of deaths which occurred.

NEW CASES						DEATHS				
GROUPS	Respira M	atory F	Non-res	spiratory F	Respi M	ratory F	Non-re M	spiratory F		
0 - 5 5 - 14 15 - 24 25 - 44 45 - 64 65 & over Age unknown	- 1 4 1 2	- 3 1 2 2	1 1	- - 2 1 -	6 2 -		- - 1 -	-		
TOTALS	9 1	8 7	2	3 5	8	8	1	1		

I am indebted to Dr. D. L. Pugh, the Chest Physician, for the following details of the numbers of contacts of known cases of tuberculosis examined during the year, and the number found to be suffering from tuberculosis. These figures relate to the area of the Chest Clinic which coincides with the area of the four authorities, Maidstone Borough, Maidstone R.D., Hollingbourn R.D., and Malling R.D.

(a) Number of contacts seen during 1961 of newly notified cases of tuberculosis ... 548

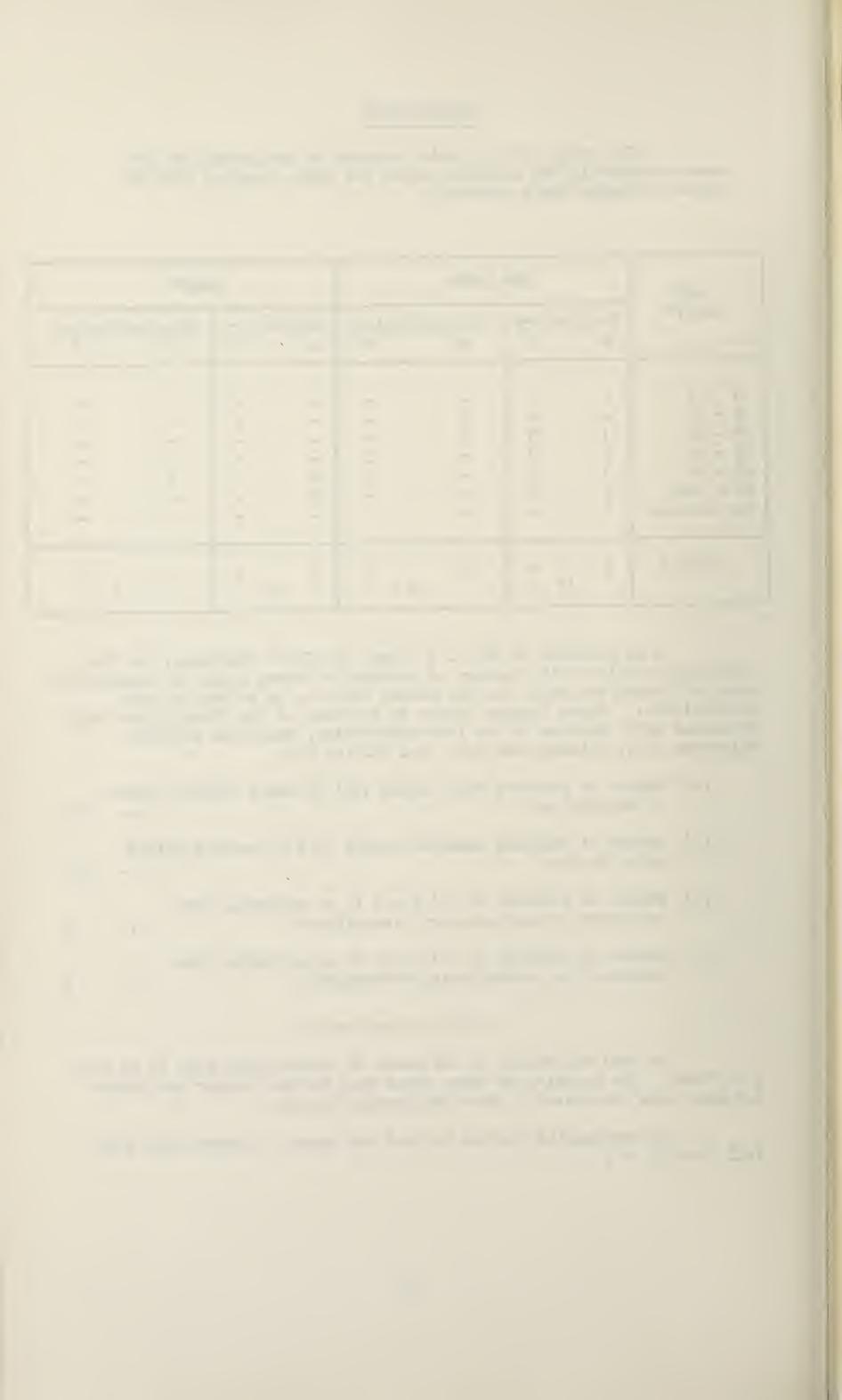
(b) Number of contacts examined during 1961 of cases notified prior to 1961 ... 390

(c) Number of contacts in (a) found to be suffering from pulmonary or non-pulmonary tuberculosis ... 4

(d) Number of contacts in (b) found to be suffering from pulmonary or non-pulmonary tuberculosis ... 7

In 1961 the number of new cases of tuberculosis rose to 22 from 7 in 1960. The majority of these cases were in the younger age groups and some were discovered by Mass Radiography Surveys.

An encouraging feature is that the number of deaths this year fell from 14 to 9.



POLIOMYELITIS VACCINATION 1961

The following table shows the number of injections given in the various priority groups during the year ended 31st December 1961.

Priority Group	2nd Injections	3rd Injections	4th Injections
1957 - 1961	715	632	-
1946 - 1956	193	413	•••
1943 - 1945	25	46	904
1933 - 1942	284	327	
1921 - 1932	935	1,115	tives
Others	15	27	a
School children under 12 years	_	<i>Е</i> нь	2,759
TOTALS	2,167	2, 560	2 , 759

Since the poliomyelitis vaccination scheme started 12,247 people have completed a full course of three injections. This figure corresponds to slightly ever 30 per cent of the total population of your District. In addition, 2,759 children under the age of 12 years received a fourth injection.

While these figures are reasonably satisfactory, the whole picture has now changed with the introduction of oral vaccine, and there would appear to be no valid reason why the vast majority, even up to 100 per cent of the population who are offered this facility, should not be protected.



WHOOPING COUGH IMMUNISATION

The following table shows the whooping cough immunisation figures for 1961, based on the returns submitted to the Ministry of Health.

Year of Birth	Whooping cough immunisation (Singly or in
	combination) Primary
1961 1960 1959 1958 1957 1952 - 56 1947 - 51	265 329 38 23 21 42 13
TOTAL	731

There has been an increase this year in the number of children who have been protected against whooping cough. This increase amounts to nearly 100 as compared with last year. As I pointed out in 1960 these figures are very encouraging, because it should be borne in mind that whooping cough, particularly in the young infant, is at the very least a debilitating disease, and can be, in certain circumstances, very serious indeed.



SMALLPOX VACCINATION

The following table shows the smallpox vaccination figures for 1961 based on the return submitted to the Ministry of Health.

Age at date of vaccination	Number vaccinated	Number revaccinated
Under 1	700	
	388	7
1	45	-
2 to 4	34	2
5 to 14	19	2
15 or over	7	6
TOTALS	493	10

Although the figures for 1961 show no real picture of the demand for smallpox vaccination consequent upon the outbreak in this country in December 1961, there is an increase in the number of primary vaccinations, from 394 in 1960 to 493 in 1961.

I do not regard the figure of 10 for the number receiving reinforcing vaccinations as at all a realistic one, as I have not the slighest doubt that a considerable number of people have this benefit, but no record is made of the fact.

At the moment of writing this report, the vast majority of foreign countries still demand valid certificates of vaccination, and I would repeat last year's warning that a great deal of trouble and inconvenience could be avoided by ensuring that any vaccination in adult life shall merely be revaccination, and not a primary attempt.



IMMUNISATION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA

The following table shows the diphtheria immunisation figures for 1961 based on the return submitted to the Ministry of Health.

Year of birth		ria Immunisation r in combination)
	Primary	Reinforcing
1961	265	-
1960	332	18
1959	57	33
1958	32	22
1957	29	29
1952 - 56	64	361
1947 - 51	25	70
TOTALS	804	533

Once again, I am very pleased to be able to report that the number of primary immunisations against diphtheria rose from 700 in 1960 to 804 in 1961. There was also an increase in the reinforcing immunisations from 337 to 533.

This is a most welcome trend, particularly at a time when many other parts of the country are reporting a decrease in the amount of work done in this field.

It still remains for me, however, to warn that the maintenance of a high level of immunity is the only real means of warning off the sharp and virulent outbreaks of diphtheria which have been seen in other parts of the country.

The facilities are freely available both through the School Health Service, and through the general practitioner service.

	100

22 visits were made to 12 old persons during the year to investigate their living conditions in an endeavour to assist.

Two orders were obtained from a Justice of the Peace, and as a result, one old man and an elderly lady were removed to Linton Hospital. As a result of informal action 3 other cases entered Homes voluntarily. An elderly man died and two aged ladies removed to relatives. The remaining 4 cases were being kept under review at the year's end.

THE PUBLIC HEALTH (INFECTIOUS DISEASES) REGULATIONS 1953

It was not found necessary to issue any Notices under the above Regulations in order to prevent the spread of infection through the handling of food.

CANCER

Below is an analysis of the deaths from malignant disease according to age groups.

Deaths from Cancer during 1961

Age groups	Male	Female
0 - 1 year 2 - 6 years 6 - 15 " 16 - 25 " 26 - 35 " 36 - 45 " 46 - 55 " 56 - 65 " 66 years & over	- - - 4 5 15 24	- - - 3 7 4 16
TOTALS	48	30

Deaths from cancer in 1961, distributed according to sites:-

Site	Male	Female	Total		
Cancer of stomach Cancer of lung, bronchus Cancer of breast Cancer of uterus Other sites	20 1 23	3 5 6 14	7 23 5 6 37		
TOTALS	48	30	78		

The total number of deaths from cancer in 1961 rose by 5. This is still below the high figure of 88 recorded in 1959, but I would warn against accepting this as a trend.

The number of cases of cancer of the lung rose very steeply from 14 in 1960, to 23 in 1961.

This is a very disappointing state, following the very large amount of publicity which has been given to recent reports on the association between heavy cigarette smoking and cancer of the lung. It would appear that there is some degree of resignation in the community to the eventual fate which will undoubtedly evertake a certain percentage, and that the real attack on this disease should be from the preventive angle of discouraging children from taking up smoking.

INFANTILE MORTALITY

CAUSE OF DEATH	Under 1 week	1 - 2 weeks	2 - 3 weeks	3 - 4 weeks	Total under 4 weeks	4 weeks and under 3 months	3 - 6 months	7 - 12 months	Total deaths under 1 year
Prematurity	6		-	-	6		~	-	6
Bronchitis & pneumonia	1	-	-	-	1	3	-	-	4
Heart disease	~	~	1	~	1	-	_	1	2
Meningitis	-	1	-	~	1	-	~	~	1
Septicaemia	-	~	1		1	-	-	-	1
Accidents	-	-	c=a	==	-	-	1	1	2
TOTALS	7	1	2		10	3	1	2	16

The number of infant deaths this year is the same as last year, giving an infantile mortality rate of 21.33, which is slightly below that of England and Wales.

Out of the total of 16, 6 deaths were due to prematurity. When this condition is present to a gross degree, the hazard of life is very large, and this whole subject is under constant review.



PARISH	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	TOTALS
Addington	-	1	-	2	-	-	1	1	1		1	***	7
Aylesford	7	3	6	2.	4	6	2	7	5	3	9	9	63
Birling	1	-	-	-	~		gmb -		2	-	***	-	3
Borough Green	3	5	ency	1	2	4		1	-	2	2	5	25
Burham	1	3	2	prof	1	*	-	3	-	1	2	1	14
Ditton	2.	1	-	2	2	2	1	-	2	-	1	1	14
Igh tham	2	1	1	1	2	3	eng.	-	-	2	1	2	15
Leybourne	1	3	3	4	5	4	3	2	1	-	1	2	30
East Malling	4	3	3	2	4	2	4	-	4	4	4	12	46
West Malling	3	4	1	5	3	2	2	3	2	5	4	5	38
Mereworth	-	-	1	2	C10	•••	-	1	1	1	1	1	8
Offham	00-0	1	1	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	5
East Peckham	2	1	4	4	2	2	2	2	3	udo	3	2	27
West Peckham	1	-	1	~	cun	-	-	-	1	049	-	-	3
Platt	-	~	-	•	****	1	-	-	1	1	1	-	4
Plaxtol	6 99	2	-	1	1	-	3	-	-	1	-	1	9
Ryarsh	-	-	-	2	c.***	(***)	1	~	1	1	1	2	8
Shipbourne	-	-	~	-	-	-	1	-	2	498	1	2	6
Snodland	2	3	4	5	3	3	3	6	5	4	6	4	55
Stansted	-	1	-	# NO	-	~	-	476	1	-	-	1	3
Trettiscliffe	2	E3 ~	-	p.46	-	-	-	-		-	1	-	3
Wateringbury	3	-	-	1	enca	1	3	-	1	Cape	2	2	13
Wouldham	2	-	es	Linna	1	gent	-	-	-	2	1	1	7
Wrotham	3	2	2	3	2	2	1	1		1	2	2	21
TOTALS	46	34	29	38	32	32	27	30	31	28	44	56	427

The Registrar General reports 429 deaths in the District in 1961. Only 427, however, can be traced, and since it is necessary to distribute the deaths among parishes, this latter figure has been chosen in the above table.

Birth-rates, Death-rates and Analysis of Mortality in the year 1961

			Death-ra	Rate per 1,000			
Area	1,000 population	p	er 1,000) populat	tion	Live Births	Related Births
	Live Births	All causes	Tuberculosis	Cancer of lung	Other cancer	Total Deaths under 1 year	Still Births
England and Wales	17.4 (P)	12.0	.06(P)	•49(P)	1.67(P)	21.4	18.7
Hollingbourn R.D.	14.60	11.31	٥٥5	•40	1.92	28.00	34.74
Maidstone R.D.	14.49	10.67	-	•85	1.75	17.42	10.34
Malling R.D.	19.60	10.89	.22	•57	1.36	21.33	11.85
Maidstone Borough	16.17	11.98	. 18	•46	1.41	23.73	21,21
County of Kent	16.30 *	12.19*	.08	•53	1.70	20.02	18.22

⁽P) - Provisional Rates

^{* -} Crude Rates



CAUSES OF DEATHS 1961

Cause		Male	Female
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory 2. Tuberculosis, other 3. Syphilitic disease 4. Diphtheria 5. Whooping cough 6. Meningococcal infections 7. Acute poliomyelitis 8. Measles 9. Other infective and parasitic diseases 10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach 11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus		8 1 1 - - - 5 20	1 2 2
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus 12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	• • •	2 0	3 5 6
 13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus 14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms 15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia 16. Diabatas 	• • •	23 -	14
16. Diabetes 17. Vascular lesions of nervous system 18. Coronary disease, angina 19. Hypertension with heart disease 20. Other heart disease 21. Other circulatory disease 22. Influenza 23. Pneumonia 24. Bronchitis 25. Other diseases of respiratory system 26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum 27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea 28. Nephritis and nephrosis 29. Hyperplasia of prostate 30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion 31. Congenital malformations 32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases 33. Motor vehicle accidents 34. All other accidents 35. Suicide		25 34 18 5 12 18 5 32 12 6 9 10 3 3	4 28 27 7 28 13 2 17 4 1 2 1 3 - 2 23 1 5 1
36. Homicide and operations of war	• • •	-	-
		229	200
		===	===

. . 100 - 1 mile and the same of th ATT Α.... 1 . .

Public Health Department, Council Offices, High Street, WEST MALLING. 18th May 1962.

To the Chairman and Members of the Rural District Council of Malling,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my fourteenth Annual Report on the environmental circumstances existing in the Rural District for the year ended 31st December 1961.

The fact that there were no changes in the staff during the year ensured the smooth running of the department.

Two major items of legislation were enacted during the year, viz., The Public Health Act 1961, and The Housing Act 1961. As neither of these Acts came into force until the latter part of the year, the full effects have still to be felt.

All aspects of environmental hygiene and sanitation continued to receive full attention. Caravans and Caravan Sites took up a considerable amount of time, and the position with regard to gipsies received serious attention. At the year's end consideration was being given to the provision of a Council site for these itinerant people. The Slum Clearance Programme continued satisfactorily, a start being made on the second five-year programme.

The proposed improvement to the cesspool emptying service was implemented during the year, and there is now a sixweekly service throughout the district. The difficulty of disposing of cesspool contents was increased with the closing down of the tip at Borough Green, and the fact that tipping at West Malling Sewage Works must cease temporarily on 1st January next, pending the reconstruction of that Works, will add to our difficulties. Not until treatment facilities proposed at various sewage works have been provided will our difficulties be overcome.

At this time, when the work of the department for the past year is being reviewed, it might be of interest if some aspects of the district of 25 years ago were considered and compared with the position in 1961. In 1936, with 8,750 houses in the district, the product of a penny rate was £ 650. At the end of 1961 there were 12,482 houses, and the product of a penny rate had risen to £ 2,610. During the same period the number of Council dwellings had risen from 440 to 2,451. It is hardly surprising, with slaughtering being carried out at 30 private slaughterhouses in 1936, that adequate meat inspection could not be undertaken, and much reliance had to be placed on butchers notifying any evidence of disease. In 1961, inspection at the 3 slaughterhouses in use continued at the new recognised level of 100% of all animals killed, and for the first time no tuberculosis was found on post mortem inspection.

Perhaps the cleansing side of the department shows the greatest change. Last year the weekly collection of refuse throughout the district was continued, but in 1936 part of the district received only a monthly collection, designed primarily as an aesthetic service to deal with such items as tins, bottles, scrap iron, etc., and no attempt was made to remove general household refuse, a total of 3,347 tons being handled, and only 8 parishes receiving a regular collection.

Cesspools were only emptied regularly in 9 parishes, one 750 gallon emptier being used. Two years previously the number of emptiers had been reduced from 2 to 1. As will be seen from the section on this subject, the position in 1961 with 8 machines working was far different.

A summary of the work carried out during the year follows, with comments on each subject.

HOUSING

Further progress was made during the year for the elimination of unfit houses, a start being made on the Council's second five-year programme. In all, 33 official representations were made. 7 demolition orders, (one as a result of a representation in 1960), and 17 closing orders were made, whilst one undertaking not to use a cottage until made fit was accepted. 9 of the representations were due for consideration, and the making of appropriate orders in 1962.

2 houses, the subject of undertakings not to use the houses until they were made fit, made in the previous year, were made fit for human habitation and the undertakings cancelled.

36 houses were demolished and 18 closed during the year, some of which were the result of orders made the previous year. A total of 19 families comprising 66 persons were rehoused by the Council from unfit houses. The support by the Council in providing the necessary accommodation for rehousing the persons displaced has ensured the success of the Slum Clearance Programme and is much appreciated.

1,349 visits of inspection were made under this heading during the year, and it was necessary to serve 61 informal and 6 statutory notices requiring housing repairs. The table following this section of the report sets out in detail a summary of the repairs effected. The following shows the number of houses rendered fit during the year.

Houses made fit as a result of informal action by the

Local Authority ... 59

Houses made fit as a result of formal action by the

Local Authority ... 8

The number of applications for Certificates of Disrepair fell during the year when only 8 applications were received as against 15 for the previous year. In all, a total of 141 applications have been dealt with since the advent of the Rent Act 1957. Of the 8 cases dealt with, 5 Certificates of Disrepair were issued, and 3 satisfactory undertakings to carry out the work necessary were received from landlords. I am more than ever convinced that the Act has failed to prevent the deterioration of the smaller cottage type of property.

Although applications for Improvement Grants are dealt with by Mr. C. Brown, the Council's Engineer and Surveyor, it is appropriate to include a summary of the year's work in this report. The following information has been supplied, therefore, by Mr. Brown:-

Discretionary Grants

Number	of	schemes	submitted	108
Number	of	schemes	approved	108

Total	cost of such improvements		
or	conversions	£	79,371
Total	cost of grants made	€	33,586

Standard Grants

Number of	applications	35
Number of	applications approved	35
Total cos	t of grants made	€ 4,320.

Although there was a decrease of 14 discretionary grants approved compared with 1960, the cost of grants made rose by £ 5,637. The number of Standard Grants were 5 less than the previous year, and the amount paid by way of grant fell by £ 162.

The number of new dwellings erected in the Rural District during 1961 was as follows:-

By Local Authority 66
By private enterprise 430 ... 496

The following table sets out the sanitary works effected to existing premises during the year under review:-

Water closets provided repaired	• • •	1 4
Wash basins provided/renewed/cleansed	• • •	
Sinks provided/renewed	• • •	4
Water heaters provided	• • •	5
Baths provided	• • •	5
Cesspools provided/renewed	• • •	13
Urinals provided/renewed		2
Inspection chambers provided/renewed		6
Gullies repaired/renewed		8
Drains laid/altered/repaired	• • •	16
Choked drains cleansed	• • •	7
Grease traps provided	• • •	1
Chimney-stacks repaired/renewed		8
Roofs repaired	• • •	37
R.W. gutters & pipes repaired/renewed		14
External walls repaired		38
Internal walls & ceilings repaired		68
Floors and staircases repaired		15
Doors and windows repaired/renewed		53
Grates and ranges repaired/renewed		3
Dampness remedied		48
Dirty premises cleansed		1
Dustbins provided		115
Accumulations removed		8
Houses painted		1
Yard paving repaired		1
Chemical closet provided		1
Fireplaces renewed		1
Food shops cleansed/redecorated/etc.		4
Dust extractor provided		1
Smoke density meter/alarm bell fitted		1
Number of informal notices served during 1961		4 61
Number of formal notices served during 1961		6
Number of complaints received during 1961		476
11.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1		710

HOP PICKING

27 camps were used during the 1961 season, 3 less than last year, housing an estimated 2,561 pickers - a decrease of 560 on 1960. With approximately 1,630 huts at the farms, it is obvious that there was no overcrowding. Although the number of machines in use remained at 17, the position was not quite the same as the previous year, as, during the year, one farm closed down and a further machine was installed at another farm.

53 visits of inspection were made to ensure compliance with the Council's byelaws, and once again particular attention was paid to latrine accommodation and refuse disposal.

The byelaw requiring all huts to be vacated not later than 30th November was fully implemented and farmers have been co-operative.

WATER SUPPLIES

In 1961, 12,215 premises in the district received a piped supply of water from public mains. The majority of houses are supplied by the Mid Kent Water Company, the remainder, 190, are supplied by the mains of the Maidstone Waterworks Company, and the Sevenoaks and Tonbridge Water Company, and the Medway Water Board. In addition, 198 premises receive their water from six private sources of supply. Only two areas of the district continued to be without adequate water supplies. These are:— the Bells Farm area in East Peckham parish, and the Holly Hill area of Birling parish. Due to the distance from existing water mains and the small number of properties, it has not been possible to provide piped supplies within the bounds of reasonable cost.

During the year a scheme to extend water mains to serve 25 houses in the Hamptons area in the parishes of West Peckham and Plaxtol was submitted to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government. The premises in this area are supplied from a private source, known to be subject to intermittent pollution. A further scheme to extend mains in the parish of Aylesford, to serve 7 properties, was also approved in principle, and it is hoped to carry out these extensions in the forthcoming year.

OLUMN TO SERVE

Details of supplies are as follows:-

(a) Dwellings supplied from public water mains

Mid Kent Water Company	12,025
Maidstone Waterworks Company	55
Sevenoaks & Tonbridge Water Co.	20
Medway Water Board	115
	12,215

(b) Dwellings receiving piped supplies from private sources

Golding Hop Spring Supply, Plaxtol	1
Tottington Spring Supply, Aylesford	43
British Quarrying Co. Supply, Boro. Green	6
Hamptons Private Supply, West Peckham	26
Hermitage Farm Supply, Aylesford	5
Fairlawn Private Supply, Shipbourne	117

1<u>98</u> 12,413

At the 31st December 1961, 97.92% of the houses within the district were receiving a supply of piped water from statutory undertakings, and a further 1.58% from private sources of supply. Thus, a total of 99.50% of the houses in the district receive a piped water supply.

SAMPLES

Regular sampling confirms the absence of lead contamination, and, as the waters are not liable to have plumbo-solvent action, it has not keen necessary to take any precautions against these contaminations.

As in previous years, regular sampling of all supplies has been carried out, particular attention again being paid to the untreated private supplies.



Details of the samples taken during the year are as follows:-

Type of	Bacte	riological E	xamination	Chemical Examination			
Water	No. of Samples	Satisfact- ory	Unsatis- factory	No. of Samples	Satisfact- ory	Unsatis- factory	
Statutory Supply Undertakings	8	8	_	1	1	-	
Private Sources piped to dwellings	51	30	13	-	ç. -		
Other private sources	3	2	1	1	Çirmi	1	

10 of the 14 unsatisfactory bacteriological samples were taken from unfiltered water of the Tottington Spring Supply. All dwellings on this supply are provided with bacteriological filters, and samples taken after filtration proved satisfactory.

2 unsatisfactory samples were taken from a private supply at Hamptons. Advice on boiling the water before use was given, and repeat samples proved satisfactory.

1 unsatisfactory sample was taken from a well at Mereworth, supplying one house. The owner of the property was approached, and as a result the house was connected to mains supply.

The remaining unsatisfactory sample was taken from a private supply at Borough Green. Further samples throughout the year proved satisfactory.

The unsatisfactory chemical sample was taken from a spring at Ightham. Upon receipt of the result, the proposal to use the land for camping was abandoned.

Chemical analysis and bacteriological examination of the Mid Kent Water Company's supply are carried out monthly. The results of examinations are consistently satisfactory. The following table gives the average chemical analysis of the water during the year:-

	Trosley Pumping Station	Halling Pumping Station
	Parts pe	r million
Total solids (dried at 180%)	313	316
Chlorine present as Chloride	21	22
Ammoniacal nitrogen	0.00	0.00
Albuminoid nitrogen	0.002	0.004
Nitrate nitrogen	2.8	2.2
Nitrite nitrogen	0.00	0.00
Oxygen absorbed (3 hrs. at 27°C)	0.02	0.00
Hardness (as CaCO3) - Temporary	157	172
Permanent	66	29
Total	223	201
Alkalinity (as CaCO3)	157	172.
Free Carbon Dioxide (as CO2)	10	15
Calcium (as CaCC3)	202	181
Magnesium (as CaCO3)	21	20
Iron	Absent	0,24
Other metals	Absent	Absent
Residual Chlorine	0.16	0.03
рН	7.4	7•3

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The following table shows the number of dwelling houses in each parish; those supplied with water from public and private mains, and those known to be without a laid-on water supply. In the latter case, water is obtained from springs and wells or by the storage of rainwater in underground tanks.

Parish	No. of dwelling houses	Estimated population	No. of with pipe Public mains		No. of houses known to be without laid on supply
Addington	204	605	204	_	-
Aylesford	1,723	5,207	1,669	48	6
Birling	426	1,286	422	-	4
Borough Green	912	2,608	906	6	-
Burham	511	1,552	511	-	-
Ditton	607	1,983	607	-	-
Igh tham	573	1,661	573	-	-
Leybourne	186	2,128	186	_	-
East Malling	1,548	4,601	1,548	-	_
West Malling	709	2,352	707	-	2
Mereworth	217	902	216	-	1
Offham	232	727	231	-	1
East Peckham	697	2,032	685	-	12
West Peckham	103	344	81	20	2.
Platt	393	1,171	391	-	2
Plaxtol	330	1,072	318	7	5
Ryarsh	246	762	246	:	-
Shipbourne	154	493	37	117	-
Snodland	1,293	4,006	1,289	-	4
Stansted	167	546	167	-	-
Trottiscliffe	158	442	158	-	-
Wateringbury	368	1,112	368		-
Wouldham	264	836	264	-	-
Wrotham	461	1,722	460	-	1
TOTALS	12,482	40,150	12,244	198	40

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Water Mains: During the year under review, 7,486 yards of mains were laid in the rural district, as follows:-

Parish	Yards	Size	Water Company
Addington Aylesford "" Birling Borough Green "" Burham East Peckham Offham Platt Ryarsh Stansted Shipbourne West Malling	152 670 580 50 176 226 84 100 962 510 149 2,077 818 32 521 340 56	3" 4" 4" 3" 4" 3" 6" 3" 3" 2"	Mid Kent Water Company """"""""""""""""""""""""""""""""""""

The above new mains were laid chiefly to serve new development and to a lesser extent to replace existing mains with larger diameter pipes. In no case was any main laid to serve premises not hitherto served by public water supply.

Delivery of water.

The effects of the warmer drier summer of 1961, compared with 1960, are reflected in the amount of water that had to be delivered to houses in the Holly Hill area in the parishes of Birling and Stansted. This resulted in a total of 4,400 gallons being delivered, an increase of 3,200 gallons on the previous year. This is the only part of the district where it cannot be said that the supply is adequate, but due to the prohibitive cost of providing a mains supply to these premises, the position cannot be improved.



METEOROLOGY

The following data concerning meteorology for the year 1961 (with comparative figures for the four previous years) has been supplied by the Meteorological Officer of the East Malling Research Station:-

	Average Thermometer (Max.)	Average Thermometer (Min.)	Highest Thermometer	Lowest Thermometer	Average Barometer	Total rainfall (ins.)	Heaviest rainfall in any cne day	No.of days in which rain fell(0.01 & over)	35 years average **	Total hours of sunshine
January February March April May June July August September October November December	44.4 50.9 57.0 58.9 61.7 70.4 71.0 70.6 69.6 60.6 49.6 44.5	34.0 38.7 36.1 42.9 42.5 47.3 50.9 52.5 51.6 44.0 37.5 31.4	52 62 70 65 75 85 92 87 83 71 63 59	25 30 24 35 30 37 40 42 39 31 24 16	29.82 28.99 30.22 29.72 29.97 29.94 29.94 29.97 29.91 29.77 29.83 29.84	3.44 2.09 0.03 1.90 0.96 1.75 1.22 1.04 2.06 4.12 2.60 3.45	1.00 0.70 0.02 0.31 0.47 1.17 0.36 0.27 0.49 1.07 0.79 0.51	16 19 2 18 10 8 11 15 16 17 18 15	2.46 1.95 1.57 1.90 1.93 1.65 2.25 2.31 2.18 2.85 3.18 2.48	54.8 67.4 177.4 108.2 232.2 250.7 197.6 180.4 130.8 132.6 72.5 81.4
Total/Average for the year			29.82	24.66	1.17	165	26.69	1,686.0		
Total/Average for the year 1957 1958 1959 1960					24.41 30.52 21.42 35.95	1.28 1.09 1.16 1.18	163 190 153 212	26.73 26.73 26.73 26.73		

^{*} Weighted averages for the 35 year period 1926 - 1961

Wettest periods: The longest wet periods of the year were between the 31st January and 8th February, and the 6th to 14th November.

Driest period: The longest dry period was between the 8th and 26th May, and the sunniest day of the year was on 25th June when 14.7 hours sunshine were measured.

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INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

There was no new legislation during the year on this aspect of the work of the department. Routine visits to all food premises in the district continued to ensure compliance with the Food Hygiene Regulations, and during the year a total of 1,579 visits were made. The general trend of shopkeepers to improve their premises has continued, and each year more shops are installing deep freeze cabinets. The increasing use of refrigerated storage does not mean that general hygiene can be relaxed, and this point is made clear to the food handlers during the routine visits. Generally speaking, proprietors of food premises have continued to prove co-operative, but it is only by constant routine inspection that effective control of these premises can be maintained.

During the year 12 cases of contamination of food were brought to the notice of the department, but in none of the cases were legal proceedings warranted. All the foodstuffs involved were manufactured at premises outside this district. Enquiries were instituted in these areas with the co-operation of the public health department concerned, and steps were taken in an endeavour to preclude any further recurrence.

The following table sets out the number of various food premises in the district regularly inspected by the District Public Health Inspectors:~

Cafes and Works Canteens	• • 54
Bakehouses	10
Butchers shops	31
Fishmongers shops	11
Grocers and General shops	194
Greengrocers	25
Licensed premises	120

Slaughterhouses

The position with regard to slaughterhouses showed no change, viz., there were 4 licensed during the year, 3 of which were in regular use, the remaining one being unused. There was a large increase in the amount of slaughtering carried out during the year amounting to an increase of almost 50% over the kill for 1960. The total of 2,282 animals killed was the highest for this district since the return to private slaughtering in 1954. Under these circumstances it is not surprising to find that the amount of meat condemned also increased. However, the comparatively small amount condemned gives an indication of the general good quality of the meat supply in the district. I am pleased to report 'hat although careful examination was made, no evidence of tuberculosis was found, and for the first time it was not necessary to condemn any meat for this disease, nor was any evidence of cysticercus bovis noted.

The inspection of all meat killed is, in my opinion, a very important aspect of the work of the department if the district's food supplies are to be safeguarded. As the majority of the slaughtering takes place in the evening and at week-ends, a considerable amount of this duty cannot be carried out during normal working hours. It was necessary for the two Inspectors engaged in meat inspection to work 203 hours overtime, including work on 14 Saturdays and 46 Sundays during the year under review in order to maintain the now accepted standard of 100% inspection of all animals killed.

The following table shows the number of animals slaughtered and the amounts condemned during the year:-

·	Cattle ex Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep	Pigs	Total
Number killed) Number inspected)	311	239	149	636	947	2,282
All diseases except tubercul	osis_					
Whole carcases condemned	-	1	1	3	_	5
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	43	53	~	102 [,]	25	223
Percentage of No. inspected affected with diseases other than tuberculosis	% 13.82	% 22.59	% 0.72	% 16.54	% 2. 64	% 10
Tuberculosis only Whole carcases condemned	-	_	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	_	-	-
Percentage of No. inspected affected with tuberculosis		_	-	-	-	-

Approximate weight condemned - 17 cwts.10 lbs.



Milk Supplies

Under the Milk (Special Designation) Regulations 1960, the issue of licences and enforcement of the Regulations was transferred to Food and Drugs Authorities from Local Authorities. There has been, however, liaison between this Authority and the County Council, and premises from which milk is sold have received routine inspection.

The Rural District Council are still responsible for the registration of dairies (other than dairy farms) and distributors of milk. There are 12 registered dairies and 63 distributors in the district, an increase of 3 distributors over the previous year.

Milk sampling during the year has been carried out by the Kent County Council.

Voluntary surrender of foodstuffs

The following table gives the details of foodstuffs surrendered as unfit for human consumption:-

Article	Tons	Cwts.	eight Qrs.	lbs.	ozs.
Tinned fruit " meat Fresh meat Tinned vegetables " milk " soup Cereals Preserves Bacon Tinned fish Fresh fish Fats	11	8 4 19 5 - 4 - 12 -	3 2 0 1 - 2 - 3 1	23 10 19 21 4 13 14 12 21 6	12½ 7 0 * 13½ 9 ½ 12 5¾ 4 7 8 14
	14	16	0	24	03/4

* Including meat surrendered at private slaughterhouses during meat inspection immediately after slaughter.

These unfit foods which are surrendered are disposed of at the Council's controlled tip, under strict supervision

Sampling of Food and Drugs

The sampling of food and drugs within the district continued to be undertaken by the Weights and Measures Department of the Kent County Council. The following details of samples taken within this rural district have been furnished by Mr. S. Strugnell, Chief Inspector of the Weights and Measures Department:

Article	No.	Article	No.
Alophen	1	Lamb chop with sausages	1
Beer	1	Lancashire rarebit	1
Bitter orange	1	Lard	1
Butter	1	Lemon curd	1
Butter seven (sweets)	1	Likor flip dessert	1
Candy fudge	1	Margarine	1
Cheese	1	Marmalade	1
Chicken & mushrooms in	1	Marmite	1
white sauce		Milk	57
Chocolate	2	Milk chocolate neapolitan	1
Chocolate cream	2	Milk powder	1
Cider	1	Mil Par	1
Codis	1	Mincemeat pie	1
Coffee & chicory essence	1	Mustard piccalilli	1
Cold & influenza mixture	1	Orange	1
Cornish pasties	2	Orange drink	1
Cream	2	Pepsin mixture	1
Custard powder	1	Pork sausages	••• 3
Dates	1	Pure marzipan	1
Dressed crab	1	Quick Flan with Quick Jel	1
Dried fruit mixture	1	Radian Ovals	1
Essence of Rennet	, 1	Radian B Aspirin Spirit	1
Famel syrup	1	Liniment	
Flavoured milk drink	••• 3	Ravioli	1
Flour	1	Red Cherries	1
Fruit juice	• • • 1	Ribena	1
Gin	1	Salmon	1
Glycerine, Lemon &	1	Sal Volatile B.P.C.	1
Ipecac. mixture		Scampi	1
Grape nuts	1	Soup	1
Ground almonds	1	Steak & Kidney pudding	1
Horlicks	1	Stewed steak	1
Ice Cream	2	Tea	1
Ice Cream (ready mixed)	1	Fincture of Arnica	1
Jelly	1	Whisky	7
		Zinc Starch & Boric powder	1
C/fd.	40	Total	138
	===		===
Summary:-	Milks	••• 57	
Durinicity.	Drugs	12	
	Spirits		
		samples 61	
	0011011		

All the above samples were genuine with the exception of the following:-

• - v 4 .

Sample of	Analysis	Action taken
Flavoured milk drink	Made from skimmed milk.	Proceedings taken against A.A. Barnicott, New Horsted, Chatham. Fine £5. Costs 1 gn.
Milk	Contained added water.	Proceedings taken against A.A. Barnicott, New Horsted, Chatham. Fine £25. Costs 2 gns.
Milk Chocolate Neapolitan	Butter fat did not exceed 1%. Description "Milk" not justified.	Cartons redesigned without reference to milk.
Pork sausages	38% fat meat; 36% lean meat. Fat should not exceed lean.	Caution issued.
Radian Ovals	All ingredients 10 times in excess of stated amounts.	Due to printing error of decimal point. Label corrected.
Sal Volatile B.P.C.	Free ammonia 1%. B.P.C. requires 1.12%. to 1.25%.	Withdrawn from sale.

Ice Cream

There was a total of 151 premises in the district registered for the sale of Ice Cream. In each case supplies are received prepacked from well-known manufacturers. The policy of selective sampling to ensure adequate coverage without unnecessary duplication was continued, a total of 21 samples being taken. Details of these samples, together with similar results for the previous four years are as follows:-

	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961
Premises registered for storage and sale	102	114	128	139	151
Grade 1	35 (68.1%)	18 (94.7%)	11 (91.6%)	14 (77.8%)	13 (61.9%)
Grade 2	12 (27.6%)	1 (5.3%)	1 (8.3%)	3 (16.7%)	(14.2%)
Grade 3	••		œs	1 (5.5%)	5 (23.8%)
Grade 4	•••	ora	-	•••	-
Total samples	47	19	12	18	21

Repeat samples taken following the Grade 3 results were found to be Grade 1.

The position with regard to the handling and sale is generally satisfactory, frequent routine inspections are made to ensure that the standard of hygiene is well maintained.

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RODENT CONTROL

During 1961 there were no significant changes in methods of rodent control. The methods used in this department are kept under constant review in order that advantage may be taken, not only of increased palatibility of new baits and toxicity of poisons, but also of any variations in cost. The Research Department of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food are always anxious to pass on information gained from their controlled experiments.

The trend for notification of rodent infestations in their early stages has continued and is to be welcomed and encouraged.

There was a very considerable increase in infestations treated during 1961 compared with previous years, but this is a reflection of the position throughout the country. Your operator dealt with 506 infestations during 1961, as against 366 in 1960. These treatments are, of course, only a part, although a major part, of the work involved, as there is always the statutory routine survey work of all premises, including agricultural holdings, to be undertaken. increase in notifications of infestations, 321 compared with 224 in 1960, has meant less time available for survey work. This has been partly offset by your operator working a limited amount of overtime. I feel that he has worked well during the year to keep the necessary overtime down to 117 hours, which is by no means excessive, and may have to be increased in future years as the service becomes increasingly known and developed throughout the rural district.

The number of annual contracts in relation to agricultural and other business premises is steadily increasing. 17 were in force at the end of the year, bringing in approximately £ 230 towards the cost of running the service.

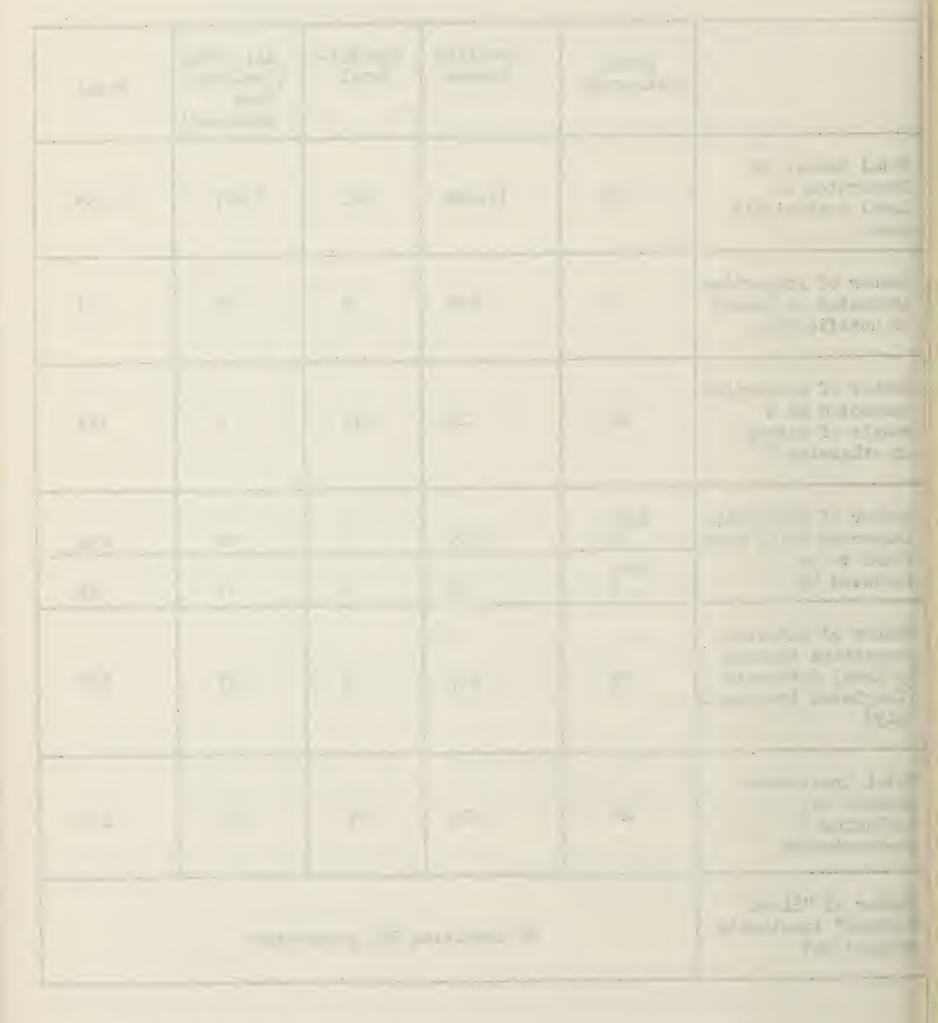
The position with regard to sewers is still good. Routine tests and treatments prove their worth because few "takes" are now obtained and the infestations are kept very low indeed.

The following table gives numerical details of the work carried out:-

-10

	Local Authority	Dwelling houses	Agricul- tural	All other (inc.Busi-ness premises)	Total	
Total number of Properties in Local Authority's area	20	12 , 482	460	1 , 677	14,639	
Number of Properties inspected as result of notification	••	296	2	23	321	
Number of Properties inspected as a result of survey or otherwise *	20	29	131	3	183	
Number of Properties inspected which were	Rats 12	265	1	16	294	
found to be infested by	Mice 2	39	1	11	535	
Number of infested properties treated by Local Authority (Completed treatments only)	14	304	2	27	347	
Total treatments carried out including re-treatments	25	404	17	60	506	
Number of "Block Control" treatments carried out	98 involving 264 properties					

^{*} Specific rodent control visits. Not including those visits where the primary reason was other than rodent control.



PEST CONTROL

This is a comparatively small service from a point of view of cost, but is one which is generally greatly appreciated by the residents of the rural district. It continues to be carried out by the Rodent Operator, who uses different methods and materials according to the pest involved.

The general position with regard to pest control is much the same as in recent years, although the tendency is for a decrease in such pests as Bed Bugs and Fleas, and an increase in treatments in respect of Ants, Wasps, etc. Numerical details of treatments are set out below:-

Ants 27, Rats 1, Beetles 5, Bees 2, Bed Bugs 1, Cricketts 2, Fleas 4, Flies 4, Wasps 88, Cockroaches 9.

There was a reduction in the number of wasps nests destroyed, 88 compared with 187 in 1960. These insects have a tendency to fluctuate greatly from year to year according to climatic and other natural conditions. Wasps nest destruction is a free service on domestic premises, but work on business establishments is subject to the actual cost of the work.

Regular inspections of the Holly Hill public open space are made, but it has not been found necessary to carry out any treatment against rabbits, squirrels or pigeons during the year under review.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

The following is the report on the operation and working of the Cleansing Section of the department for the year 1961.

Manpower

The establishment in connection with the public cleansing services comprises 52 men and 2 women, employed as follows:

- 1 General foreman
- 1 Chargehand fitter
- 1 Assistant Motor Mechanic
- 2 Refuse disposal & Muledozer drivers engaged at Refuse Tips
- 18 Men on cesspool emptying
- 29 Men on Refuse Collection
- 2 Women on salvage, sorting and baling.

ALCOHOLD VIII

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This establishment of 54 personnel is an increase of 4 over the previous year. On the 2nd January 1961, the working hours per man was reduced from 44 to 42 per week, and this offset to a large extent the effect of the additional 4 persons, one of whom was a woman engaged for salvage sorting and baling. Nevertheless it has been possible to give the refuse collection service to 496 additional houses for the first time with the existing manpower.

A total of 795 days, more than twice that for the previous year, were lost during the year for the following reasons: - 629 days through sickness, 154 days taken without permission for which no payment was made, and 12 days taken with permission for bona fide domestic reasons. Losses of this magnitude representing the time of more than 3 men are very serious especially when in addition each person is entitled to a fortnights holiday per annum.

Staff changes continued at much the same tempo as in recent years. 18 men left the Council's employ during the year and 15 men were newly engaged. In this area of full employment the difficulties of engaging new labour do not diminish, and when one man leaves there is the inevitable time lapse before a replacement can be obtained. During the peak periods of sickness and holidays, when the staff is denuded, it is impossible to engage temporary labour to fill the gaps.

In the circumstances, I feel that considerable credit is due to your Cleansing Officer, Mr. A. J. Weller, and your Foreman, for the efficient way in which the work is carried out.

Refuse Collection and Disposal

The weekly collection of refuse throughout the rural district continued satisfactorily during the year.

The continued growth of the district resulted in the collection of an additional 3,567 tons of refuse during the year. When it is realised that the nature of refuse has changed in recent years, and is now more bulky than heavy, this figure of 3,567 tons is considerable.

In the early part of the year the Council's agreement to use the disused quarry at Borough Green as a refuse tip expired, and since then all refuse has been disposed of at Ham Hill, Birling. The closure of this tip has so far presented only one real difficulty, namely the loss of the facilities for the disposal of cesspool contents. The Fordson tractor used at Borough Green was removed to Ham Hill to supplement the Bristol tractor there, and the combined use of these two machines has effected a very considerable improvement in the tip. The ability of the Bristol machine to dig out earth before tipping commences has eased very considerably the difficulty in obtaining top soil for covering purposes.

The litter bin service was extended and now there are bins available throughout the area. Adequate collection is carried out. However, it is becoming apparent already that further bins will be needed, and a sum of \pounds 100 has been included in next year's estimates for such bins.

The following table sets out the amounts of refuse and other materials conveyed by your machines during the past 5 years:-

	Year	ar Refuse Hardcore & Covering Tons		Drainage Tons	Salvage Tons	Misc. Tons	Total Tons
	1957	10628	1735	192	473	91	13119
	1958	10997	15 48	246	468	186	13445
-	1959	12066	1571	245	179	155	14216
	1960	13211	2333	209	250	76	16079
	1961	16778	2431	233	283	54	19779

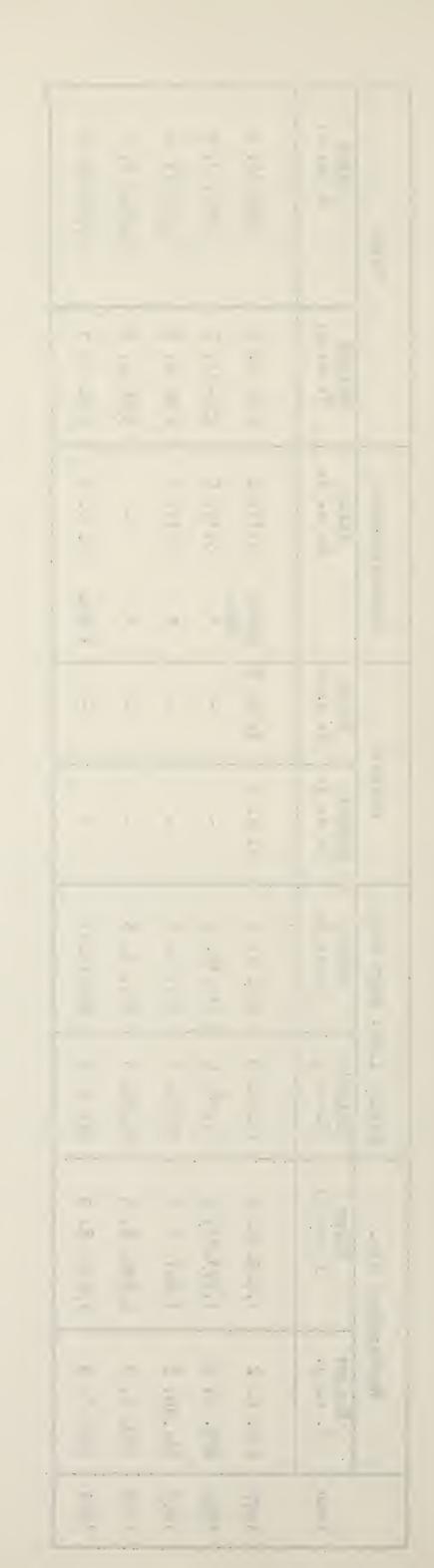
Salvage

Salvage collection continued satisfactorily during the The added incentive given to the men by increasing the bonus paid to them from 15% to 50% reflected itself in the amount of salvage The receipts for sales during 1961 at £ 3,739.18. Od. showed an increase of £ 907. 8. 8d. over the figure for the previous The total expenditure incurred during 1961 under this heading was £ 3,216.17. 2d; thus the excess of income over expenditure for the year was £ 523. 0.10d. The increase in the salvage bonus has been a great help in retaining the labour force on refuse collection, and to be able to cover this and show a profit of £ 523. 0.10d. is a In the future, I am hopeful of improving satisfactory result. still further on this figure, but unfortunately this will not be next year, as with the dawn of the new year we are asked by the Board Mills to keep next years salvage running at its present level, and not to increase it.

The following table gives the position of salvage sales and income over the past 5 years:-

	77.1	T	7.17

Total	Value £. s. d.		1,927.16.2	1,913. 1. 6	1,819.15.6	2,832. 9. 4	3,739.18.0
	Weight T. c. q.	`	225 - 2 - 3	230.17.0	232. 2. 3	339. 4. 2	438. 3. 1
Miscellaneous	Value £. s. d.		3.11.0	3.10.0	4.11.0	ı	4.0.0
Misce			Tyres 0+0	•	=	E	1 Ton
t t	Value £. s. d.		3.8.3	į	ı	ı	1
Cullett	Weight T. c. q.		3.8.1	t	1	1	1
Wetal, Tins, Rags etc.	Value £. s. d.		197. 1. 6	115.18.6	134. 3. 6	234. 3. 3	220.12.11
Metal, Tins	Weight T. c. q.		10.17.0	6,11.0	17.12. 1	18,16, 1	23.8.1
Wastepaper, etc.	Value £, s. d.		1,723.15. 5	1,793.13.0	1,681. 1. 0	2,598. 6. 1	3,515. 5. 1
Wasteps	Weight T. c. q.		210.8,2	223. 6. 0	214.10. 2	320.8.1	414. 1. 0
	Year		1957	1958	1959	1960	1961



Cesspool emptying.

8 cesspool emptying machines operated during the year, although because of shortage of staff it was not always possible to have all machines in use at once. effect of emptying cesspools at 6 weekly intervals throughout the district was felt, and there were times when there were long waiting lists of cesspools receiving attention. 16,595 loads were removed from cesspools which is an increase of 1,799 loads over the previous year, which is quite considerable. When it is realised that there were 13,276,000 gallons, approximately, of crude sewage to dispose of, the magnitude of the problem will be seen. Each year this aspect of public cleansing remains the biggest problem, and it is to be hoped that the provision of treatment facilities at sewage works for this form of sewage will soon materialise. At the moment the disposal of this sewage involves a journey of 14 miles in some instances, and it is hoped during the forthcoming year to purchase a larger machine in an effort to reduce cost in this direction, by cutting down on the number of journeys required.

In the following table will be seen the cesspool emptying position over the past 5 years. During 1961 cesspool emptying started to creep up to the 1957 and 1958 level, and so the saving effected by the provision of the recent sewers in Aylesford and Ditton is being largely offset. This is due chiefly to the improvement in the emptying service, and to a lesser extent to the provision of new houses in the district in areas without main drainage.

LOADS REMOVED									
Year	Cesspools	Flushing	Sludge etc.	Pails	Total				
1957 1958 1959 1960 1961	16,958 17,665 15,457 14,796 16,595	255 193 78 - -	451 751 277 -	157 (23,484 pails) 156 (21,402 ") 140 (19,276 ") 117 (17,533 ") 100 859 (16,965 ")	17,821 18,765 15,952 14,913 17,454 16,695				

Garages, Vehicles and Maintenance

The Council's Depot is situated at Mill Street, East Malling, and all vehicles, with the exception of the muledozers, are housed there.

There are 24 vehicles in all, as follows:-

10 refuse collection vehicles, (3 S.& D.,2 Paxits, 3 barrier loaders, 2 side loaders)

9 cesspool emptiers, (8 manned, 1 spare)

1 two-ton truck

2 vans, (1 foreman, 1 rodent operator)

2 muledozers.

Some of the above machines are getting very old, and cannot be expected to last much longer. For example, one cesspool emptier is 13 years old, one 12 years, one 10 years, and another 9 years old. One refuse collector is 11 years, one 9 years, and another 8 years. Next year it will be necessary to replace two and possibly three of these machines.

All public cleansing vehicles are maintained very efficiently by your fitter and his mate at your East Malling Depot. Despite the great age of several of your machines, the time lost through mechanical breakdown has been kept down to a minimum, and reflects great credit on the fitter. He is always prepared to make do and mend, and saves the Council money in this direction.

In accordance with the now established policy, constant care and attention was paid to the maintenance of tyres to ensure remoulding of tyres before the covers become too bad for such treatment. By such means covers are remoulded two and sometimes three times before they become unserviceable. This work shows a big saving when set against the cost of new tyres, as will be seen from the following table:-

Year	No. of covers treated	Cost of new tyres €. s. d.	Cost of treatment £. s. d.	Saving *
1957	42	840. 0. 6	424. 0. 0	416. 0. 6
1958	28	543.12. 6	274.16. 6	268.16. 0
1959	24	517. 5. 6	268.14. 6	248.11. 0
1960	21	451.11. 0	229.19. 6	221.11. 6
1961	33	654.12. 6	365. 3. 0	289. 9. 6

^{*} A "Commercial Users" discount scheme is in operation, there the full saving is as follows:-

	1957	1958		1960	1961
	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
Full retail saving	416.0.6	268.16.0	248.11. 0	221.11. 6	289. 9. 6
Plus "C.U." Discount	31.16. 0	20.12. 3	20. 3. 1	11. 1. 7	21.14. 2
FULL SAVING				233.13. 1	



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FACTORIES

The following tables show the number of inspections of factories carried out and the details of defects found:-

1. Inspections

	<u> </u>					
Premises	Number on	Number of				
rremises	Register	Inspections	Notices	Owners Prosectued		
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2,3,4 & 6 are enforced by Local Authorities	2	2	-	-		
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	1 64	245	5	-		
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out- workers premises	6	10		6		
TOTAL	172	257	5	-		

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2. Cases in which defects were found

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found					
	Found	Remedied	Refer	rred	prosecutions instituted	
·			to H.M. Inspector	by H.M. Inspector		
Want of cleanliness (s.1)	1	1				
Overcrowding (s.2)	-			-		
Unreasonable temperature (s.3)	_	_	-	-		
Inadequate ventilation (s.4)	-	-	- .	-		
Ineffective drainage of floors (s.6)	-	_	_	_		
Sanitary conveniences (s.7) (a) insufficient	2	2	-	2	_	
(b) unsuitable or defective	1	1		1	di.a	
(c) not separate for sexes	•~	-	<u>-</u>		-	
Other offences not including offences relat- ing to Home Work	1	1	-	-		
TOTALS	5	5	Design	3	-	

Outworkers: At the years end there were 19 outworkers in the district employed as follows:-

Wearing apparel	• • •	3
Curtains & Furniture hangings		2
Furniture & Upholstery		1
Lampshades		1
Paper bags		12

19 routine visits were made to outworkers premises during 1961, and conditions were found to be satisfactory in each case.

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SMOKE CONTROL

Implementation of the provisions of the Clean Air Act 1956 was continued during the year and 35 recorded observations of chimney-stacks made, in addition to unrecorded observations. It was necessary to give verbal notice of contraventions in 3 instances.

Complaints were received of hydrogen sulphide smell from a cement works. The matter was taken up with the H. M. Alkali Inspector and with the management concerned, and the position improved somewhat. Three recording stations to detect the presence of H2S in the atmosphere were set up, and at the year's end the matter was being kept under active review. Plans of a new boiler house and steam raising plant at a paper mill were approved under the Act during the year.

SHOPS ADMINISTRATION

As in previous years, the administration of the Shops Act continued to be dealt with whilst visiting shops for other duties. A total of 367 visits was made in this connection.

Apart from a few small owner-occupied shops, the tendency to close before the hours set by the Act still prevails, and it was not necessary to institute legal proceedings. Brochures summarising the principal provisions of the Act continued to be distributed upon a change of occupancy or upon request.

A complaint was received that a young person had been employed in excess of the hours permitted. The matter was investigated, but the complaint could not be substantiated.

SWIMMING POOLS

Only two of the three privately owned swimming pools in the district were in operation during the year.

Both these pools obtain their water supplies from the mains of the Mid Kent Water Company and operate on a continuous filtration and aeration process. One pool situated in the Blue Bell Hill area, owned and operated by the Boy Scouts Association, is an indoor pool operating all the year round, and has a continuous chlorination plant. The outdoor pool in the Addington area closes down for the winter months and is hand chlorinated.

Constant supervision and sampling of the pools are carried out, particular attention being given during the summer season. During 1961 128 samples were taken for bacteriological examination, 108 proving satisfactory. 12 of the unsatisfactory samples were taken from the Blue Bell Hill pool. Advice was given and repeat samples proved satisfactory. 4 of the 8 unsatisfactory samples from the Addington pool were taken after the pool had had a heavy load for several days. Advice on chlorination was given and repeat samples were satisfactory.

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COMMON LODGING HOUSES

There are no registered Common Lodging Houses in the district.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

The enforcement of the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act 1960 took up a considerable amount of time during the year. 7 applications for site licences were received and were referred to the Planning Authority, making a total of 30 applications since the advent of the Act. 6 licences were issued for sites housing a total of 43 caravans. 4 site owners decided to close down the sites rather than go to the expense of complying with the new model standards. Although the model standards are closely followed, each site is judged on its own merits, and the requirements for a site licence fully discussed with the site operators.

A total of 435 visits were made under this heading during the year.

Unlicensed sites in this district are mainly occupied by gipsies and other travellers occupying a vacant piece of land in the course of a journey or attempting to find winter quarters. Often this is done without the knowledge or consent of the owner of the land, and unless prompt action is taken in the early stages, a mushroom growth could make the problem difficult to control. The licensed sites in the district seldom have any vacancies, a position which has grown more acute with the running down of existing sites, and the site operators do not wish to accommodate these nomadic families. It is obvious that something must be done for these caravan dwellers, and at the year's end serious consideration was being given to the provision of a site for them.

NOISE

During the year, 8 complaints of noise nuisances were received and investigated. 3 concerned noise from different factories. The matter was taken up with the various managements and the nuisances abated. instance the noise was not considered to come within the ambit of the Noise Abatement Act. One complaint was of the noise caused by a portable mechanical saw being used to cut up trees on land being developed for building purposes. work proved to be of a very temporary nature, lasting only a few days. In 2 cases the complaint was of bird scarers, one being of the automatic explosion type which was only operated during the hours permitted under a Kent County Council Byelaw. The other was an experimental type of tape recorded bird alarm calls of the starling and jackdaw families. Tests were being carried out at the farm on behalf of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, who, when they were informed of the complaints, stopped the tests. Lorries working on the new motorway M2 during the night were the source of a further The contractors were approached and the nuisance complaint. abated.

Ice cream vans visiting housing estates were the source of a number of complaints. Under the Act these vehicles are permitted to sound their chimes between the hours of noon and 7.0 p.m., and all firms found delivering in the district were reminded of this fact. The main cause of annoyance in this instance appeared to be the number of such vans that were operating, rather than any one van using the chimes excessively.



SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS

During the year 11,405 inspections were carried out in connection with work of the department, comprised as follows:-

Food Premises

Number	of		s to	Swoots & Tobacco		45
11	11	11	11	Bakehouses		43
11	11	11	11	Butchers shops		117
11	11	11	11	Grocers shops		232
11	11	11	11	Greengrocers		45
11	11	11	11	General		154
11	11	11	11	Confectioners	• • •	22
11	11	11	11	Fishmongers shops	• • •	40
ttr	11	11	11	Cafes	• • •	
11	11	11	11	Works Canteens	• • •	154
11	11	11.	11	Public Houses	• • •	39
11	11	11	11	Slaughterhouses	• • •	129
11	11	11	11	Meat Inspection	• • •	47
11	rt.	11	11	Piggeries	• • •	399
11	11	11	11	Milk Supplies	• • •	12
11	11	11	11	Ice Cream and Ham (Sec. 16)	• • •	43
11	11	11	11	Food Condemnation	• • •	263
11	11	11	11	Food Factories	• • •	123
11	11	11	11	Slaughtermen's Licences	• • •	63
11	i 1	11	11	Dairies	• • •	16
11	11	11	11	Mobile Food shops	• • •	9
				mobile rood shops	• • •	8
				Formantal Harrison and Mr.		
				Environmental Hygiene and Miscellaneous		
	of	visits	to	Factories	0.0	257
11	11	11	11	Outworkers		19
11	17	11		Aged Persons		21
11	11	11	11	Dirty Premises		2
11	11	11	11	Premises re rat and/or mice infestation	• • •	-
				(inc.3079 by Rodent Operator)		3,507
11	11	11	11	Premises re pest and/or vermin (other	000	
				than rats or mice)		206
11	11	11	11	Premises re notifiable and infectious		
				diseases		320
11	11			Inspection re refuse accumulation	• • •)20
				and/or manure heaps		18
11	11			Visits carried out under Housing	• • •	10
				and/or Public Health Acts		1 3/10
11	11			Housing Inspection in connection	• • •	1,349
				with rehousing		70
11	11			Visits re sewerage and sewage disposal	• • •	39 1 40
11	11			" cesspools septic tanks, drains	• • •	410
11	11			rivers, streams, ditches, etc.	• • •	23
11	11	11	11	Swimming Pools	• • •	61
11	11	11		re Drinking Water	• • •	165
11	11	11	11	Public Assembly	• • •	
11	11	17	11	Hop Pickers Camps	• • •	31
11	11	11	11	Moveable Dwellings	• • •	53
11	11	11		re Petroleum	• • •	435
11	11	11		Flooding	• • •	183
11	11	11		Land Charges		22
11	11	n			• • •	52
11	11	11		Domestic Animals (Nuisance) Rent Acts	• • •	4
11	11	11			• • •	55
11	11	11		Refuse Disposal	• • •	91
11	11	11		Miscellaneous	• • •	273
11	11	11		Smoke		235
	••			Shops Acts	• • •	367

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Number	of	visits	to	Waste Food Boiling Plants		40
11	11	11	11	A : 7 / G = 7	• • •	42
			••	Agricultural (S.H. & W.P.) Act. 1956	• • •	33
tt	11	11	11	Refuse Collection		
11	11	11			• • •	366
				Public Conveniences	• • •	3
11	tt	11	11	Noise nuisances		111
11	11	11			• • •	111
				Cesspool emptying		489
tt	11	11	11	Holly Hill		15
11	11	11			• • •	12
				Riding Establishments		5

In conclusion, I would like to record my thanks and appreciation to the Council for their continuous support and interest during the year, and to the staff for their loyal co-operation at all times.

I have the honour to be,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

H. C. COLDRICK

Chief Public Health Inspector

Parish	Number of houses according to Valuation List as at 31.12.61	Area (Acres)	Population (estimated)
Addington	204	1,119	605
Aylesford	1,723	4,013	5,207
Birling	426	1,801	1,286
Borough Green	912	480	2,608
Burham	511	1,632	1,552
Ditton	607	1,066	1,983
Ightham	573	2,278	1,661
Leybourne	186	755	2,128
East Malling	1, 548	2,787	4,601
West Malling	709	1,379	2,352
Mereworth	217	2 , 556	902
Offham	232	1,479	727
East Peckham	697	3,337	2,032
West Peckham	103	1,582	344
Platt	393	1,827	1,171
Plaxtol	330	2,406	1,072
Ryarsh	246	1,375	762
Shipbourne	154	2,007	493
Snodland	1,293	1,958	4,006
Stansted	167	1,974	546
Trottiscliffe	15 8	1,155	442
Wateringbury	368	1,377	1,112
Wouldham	264	1,855	836
Wrotham	461	3 , 457	1,722
TOT	ALS 12,482	45 , 655	40,150

Summary

Area of district (in acres)	• 45,655
Registrar General's estimate of Mid Year Home Population	40,150
Average density of persons per acre	
No. of inhabited dwellings (31.12.61) according to Valuation List	12,482
Average density of dwellings	per 3.660 acres
Average number of persons per dwelling inhabited	3.216
Rateable Value (as at 31.12.61)	€ 641,573
Sum represented by a penny rate (1961-62)	€ 2,610

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